

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (previously presented) A method comprising:  
defining a protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of a first termination point of a radio interface protocol of a communication system by the radio interface protocol;  
transferring the protocol initialization unit from the first termination point to a second termination point of the radio interface protocol by a second protocol; and  
initializing the second termination point of the radio interface protocol based on the protocol initialization unit.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protocol initialization unit contains state information of the first protocol termination point.
3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first termination point is located at a first network element of the communication system and the second termination point is located at a second network element of the communication system.
4. (previously presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the second network element, upon receiving the protocol information unit, generates and transmits a response to the first network element by the second protocol.
5. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protocol initialization unit is encapsulated in a message transmitted between the first termination point and the second termination point by the second protocol.

6. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protocol initialization unit is transparent for the second protocol.
7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protocol initialization unit is transmitted via a third network element between the termination points.
8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein the transmission is based on a radio access network application part protocol.
9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protocol initialization unit is transmitted by a direct connection between the termination points.
10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the transmission is based on a radio network subsystem application part protocol.
11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predefined information of the radio interface protocol comprise one or several parameters of a radio resource control protocol, medium access control protocol, radio link control protocol, and/or packet data convergence protocol.
12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protocol initialization unit contains information of at least one further protocol.
13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:  
defining at least one further protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of a further protocol by the further protocol; and

transferring the further protocol initialization unit from the first termination point to the second termination point.

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the further protocol initialization unit is transferred between the termination points by a protocol that is different from the second protocol.

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the termination points is located at one of the following: a base station controller, a radio network controller, a base station, a gateway.

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the initializing the second termination point comprises setting the parameters of the second termination point into a state that is similar to the parameters of the first termination point before or at the time the method is initiated.

17. (previously presented) A communication system, comprising:  
a first protocol termination point of a radio interface protocol;  
a second protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol;  
a controller for relocating the radio interface protocol from the first protocol termination point to the second protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol, said controller being arranged to form a protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of the radio interface protocol at the first protocol termination point;  
a communication path based on a second protocol between the first and the second termination points of the radio interface protocol for transferring the protocol initialization unit; and  
a controller for initializing the second protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol based on the protocol initialization unit.

18. (original) A communication system according to claim 17, wherein the protocol initialization unit contains state information of the first protocol termination point.

19. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 17, wherein the controller for relocating is arranged to encapsulate the protocol initialization unit into a message to be transmitted from the first termination point to the second termination point.

20. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 17, wherein the first termination point is located at a first network element of the communication system and the controller for relocating is arranged in connection with the first network element.

21. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 17, wherein the second termination point is located at a second network element of the communication system and the controller for initializing is arranged in connection with the second network element.

22. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 17, wherein the protocol initialization unit contains information of at least one further protocol.

23. (previously presented) A network element for use in a communication network, comprising:

a protocol termination point of a radio interface protocol;

a controller for relocating the radio interface protocol from the protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol to another protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol, said controller being arranged to form a protocol

initialization unit containing predefined information of the radio interface protocol at the protocol termination point; and

an interface to said another protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol based on a second protocol for transferring the protocol initialization unit from the first termination point by the second protocol.

24. (original) A network element according to claim 23, wherein the network element comprises a controller of a cellular communication network.

25. (previously presented) A network element according to claim 23, wherein the controller for relocating is arranged to encapsulate the protocol initialization unit into a message to be transmitted from the first termination point by the second protocol.

26. (previously presented) A network element according to claim 23, wherein the protocol initialization unit contains information of at least one further protocol.

27. (previously presented) A network element for use in a communication network, comprising:

a radio interface protocol termination point of a radio interface protocol;

an interface to another protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol for receiving a protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of the radio interface protocol at said another protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol, wherein the interface is based on a second protocol; and

a controller for initializing the radio interface protocol termination point based on the received protocol initialization unit.

28. (original) A network element according to claim 27, wherein the network element comprises a controller of a cellular communication network.

29. (previously presented) A communication system, comprising:  
a first protocol termination point of a radio interface protocol;  
a second protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol;  
means for relocating the radio interface protocol from the first protocol termination point to the second protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol, said means for relocating being arranged to form a protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of the radio interface protocol at the first protocol termination point;  
means for transferring the protocol initialization unit from the first protocol termination point to the second protocol termination point based on a second protocol;  
and  
means for initializing the second protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol based on the protocol initialization unit.
30. (previously presented) A communication system according to claim 29, wherein the protocol initialization unit contains state information of the first protocol termination point.
31. (previously presented) A network element for use in a communication network, comprising:  
a protocol termination point of a radio interface protocol;  
means for relocating the radio interface protocol from the protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol to another protocol termination point of the radio interface protocol, said means for relocating being arranged to form a protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of the radio interface protocol at the protocol termination point; and  
means for transferring the protocol initialization unit from the protocol termination

point to the another protocol termination point based on a second protocol.

32. (previously presented) A network element according to claim 31, wherein the means for relocating are arranged to encapsulate the protocol initialization unit into a message to be transmitted from the first termination point by the second protocol.

33. (currently amended) A network element for use in a communication network, comprising:

a radio interface protocol termination point of a radio interface protocol;

means for receiving a protocol initialization unit containing predefined information of the radio interface protocol at another termination point of the radio interface protocol, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said means for receiving ~~relocating~~ are based on a second protocol; and

means for initializing the radio interface protocol termination point based on the received protocol initialization unit.

34. (previously presented) A network element according to claim 33, wherein the network element comprises a controller of a cellular communication network.